

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 1-20 without prejudice or disclaimer, and substitute new claims 21-40 therefor as follows:

Claims 1-20 (Cancelled).

21. (New) A method for locating a terminal in a local wireless telecommunications network comprising a plurality of base stations that provide services on respective coverage areas, adapted to provide a location estimation of the terminal depending on a set of configuration data and on a set of measuring data indicating whether the terminal belongs to a subset of said coverage areas and acquired from terminal or network, comprising:

defining a set of configuration data comprising a plurality of configuration data bases, each one having a respective weight function;

defining a set of measuring data comprising a plurality of measuring types, depending on the type of terminal;

associating, through different combinations of configuration data bases and measuring types, respective locating procedures that correspond to accuracy values of the location estimation; and

selectively actuating at least one locating procedure obtained from said associating step.

22. (New) The method according to claim 21, wherein said step of selectively actuating comprises selecting a locating procedure depending on a set of available measuring data and on a prefixed accuracy threshold value of the locating estimation, in

such a way that said procedure has an accuracy value that is not less than the prefixed threshold value, minimising the weight function of the configuration data base.

23. (New) The method according to claim 21, wherein said step of selectively actuating comprises selecting a locating procedure depending on a set of available measuring data and on a prefixed set of available configuration data, in such a way that said procedure has the best possible accuracy value of the location estimation.

24. (New) The method according to claim 21, wherein said step of selectively actuating comprises selecting a locating procedure depending on a set of available measuring data and on a prefixed set of available configuration data, in such a way that said procedure has the best response speed to the location estimation request.

25. (New) The method according to claim 21, wherein said step of selectively actuating comprises a step of selecting a locating procedure depending on a set of available measuring data and on a prefixed set of available configuration data, in such a way that said procedure has a pricing value in compliance with a value predefined by the user.

26. (New) The method according to claim 21, wherein said set of configuration data comprises at least one data base among a plurality of data bases related to:

- locating coordinates of the base stations;
- radio-electric characteristics of the network;
- structural and/or electromagnetic characteristics of the environment in which the network is deployed; and

radio-electric or performance parameters of signals transmitted from the base stations, in predetermined space positions belonging to the coverage area of the network.

27. (New) The method according to claim 21, wherein said set of measuring data acquired by terminal or network comprises at least one type of data among a plurality of types of data related to:

identification of the base station by which the terminal is served;

identification of the base stations received by the terminal;

at least one radio-electric or performance parameter of signals transmitted from the base station by which the terminal is served; and

at least one radio-electric or performance parameter of signals transmitted by the base stations received by the terminal.

28. (New) The method according to claim 22, comprising the temporary exclusion of a set of configuration data from said plurality of configuration data base.

29. (New) The method according to claim 21, comprising a preliminary transfer operation, on a terminal of the network, of processing programs for performing at least one subset of locating procedures, and of configuration data bases used by the transferred locating procedures, whereby the location estimation is performed by the terminal and information about estimated position and estimation accuracy are transmitted from the terminal to a locating system upon every service request.

30. (New) The method according to claim 29, wherein a synthesis or model of configuration data base is transferred.

31. (New) The method according to claim 29, wherein the selection of the set locating procedures that can be performed by a terminal occurs depending on measures that the terminal is able to perform and/or the required locating accuracy and/or the applied pricing when using the terminal.

32. (New) The method according to claim 21, comprising the operation of creating and maintaining a data base for storing the time succession of estimated positions of a terminal.

33. (New) The method according to claim 21, wherein the locating procedure associated with the combination of a configuration data base related to locating coordinates of the base stations, and possibly the radio-electric characteristics of the network, and still possibly the structural/electromagnetic characteristics of the environment in which the network is deployed, with measures related to the identification of the base station by which the terminal is served, estimates the position of the terminal corresponding to the barycenter coordinates of the coverage area of said base station, the uncertainty being defined by the distances from said barycenter to all points of the area.

34. (New) The method according to claim 33, wherein the locating procedure associated with the combination of a configuration data base related to locating coordinates of the base stations and possibly the radio-electric characteristics of network, and still possibly the structural/electromagnetic characteristics of the environment in which network is deployed, with measures related to the identification of the base station by which terminal is served and the identifications of the base stations received by the terminal, estimates the position of the terminal corresponding to the

barycenter coordinates of a coverage sub-area of the base station by which the terminal is served comprising the points nearer to the base stations received by the terminal with respect to unreceived base stations, the uncertainty being defined depending on the distances from said barycenter to all points of the sub-area.

35. (New) The method according to claim 33, wherein the locating procedure associated with the combination of a configuration data base related to locating coordinates of the base stations and possibly the radio-electric characteristics of the network, and still possibly the structural/electromagnetic characteristics of the environment in which the network is deployed, with measures related to the identification of the base station by which the terminal is served and at least one radioelectric or performance parameter of the signal transmitted from said base station and depending on the distance from said base station to the terminal, estimates the position of the terminal corresponding to the barycenter coordinates of a coverage sub-area of said base station defined depending on the distance from said base station to the terminal estimated depending on said parameter, the uncertainty being defined depending on the distances from said barycenter to all points of the sub-area.

36. (New) The method according to claim 34, wherein the locating procedure associated with the combination of a configuration data base related to locating coordinates of the base stations and possibly the radio-electric characteristics of the network, and still possibly the structural/electromagnetic characteristics of the environment in which the network is deployed, with measures related to the identification of the base station by which the terminal is served, to the identifications of base stations received by the terminal, to at least one radio-electric or performance

parameter transmitted from said server base station and depending on the distance from said base station to the terminal, and to at least one radio-electric or performance parameter of the signal transmitted from received base stations and depending on the distance from said base stations to the terminal, estimates the position of the terminal corresponding to the barycenter coordinates of a coverage sub-area of the base station by which the terminal is served, defined depending on the distances from said base stations to the terminal and estimated depending on said parameters, the uncertainty being defined depending on the distances from said barycenter to all points of the sub-area.

37. (New) A processing system for locating a terminal in a local wireless telecommunications network comprising a plurality of base stations that provide services on respective coverage areas, adapted to provide a location estimation of the terminal, comprising:

storage modules for storing data bases of configuration data, and of measuring data types indicating whether the terminal belongs to a subset of said coverage areas and acquired from the terminal or the network; and

a locating processing module adapted to associate, with different combinations of a data base of configurations and a measuring type, respective locating procedures corresponding to accuracy value of the location estimation, and to perform the procedure related to a selected combination.

38. (New) A local wireless telecommunications network, comprising a processing system for locating a network terminal according to claim 37.

39. (New) A telecommunications network adapted to perform the method according to claim 21.

40. (New) A computer program product or group of computer program products that can be executed by a processing system, comprising one or more code modules for performing a method for locating a terminal in a local wireless telecommunications network according to claim 21.